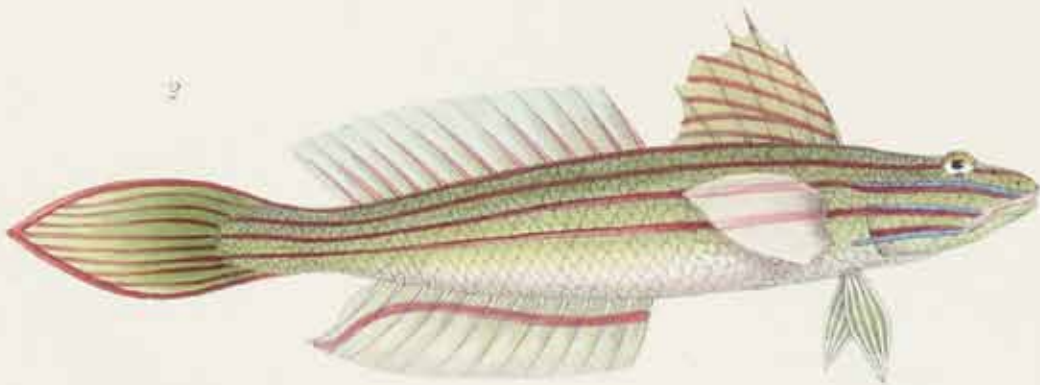


HORDERN HOUSE

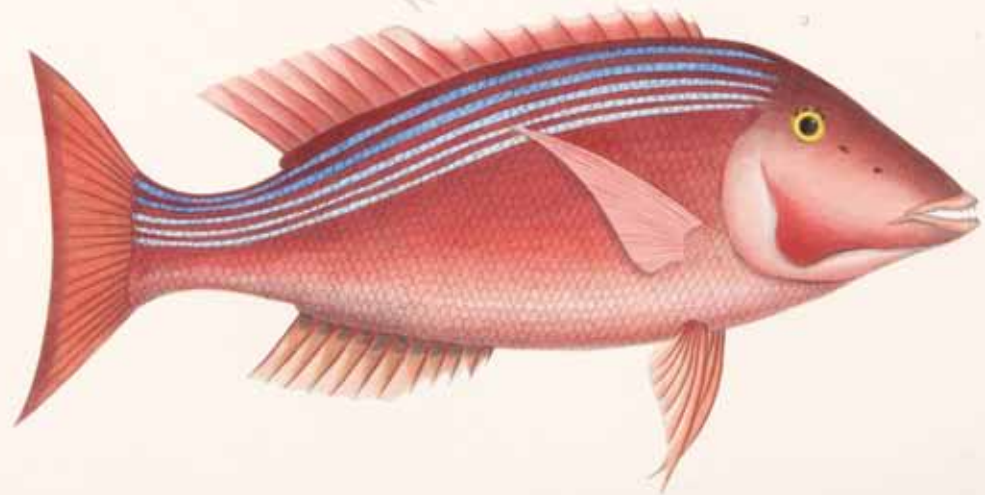
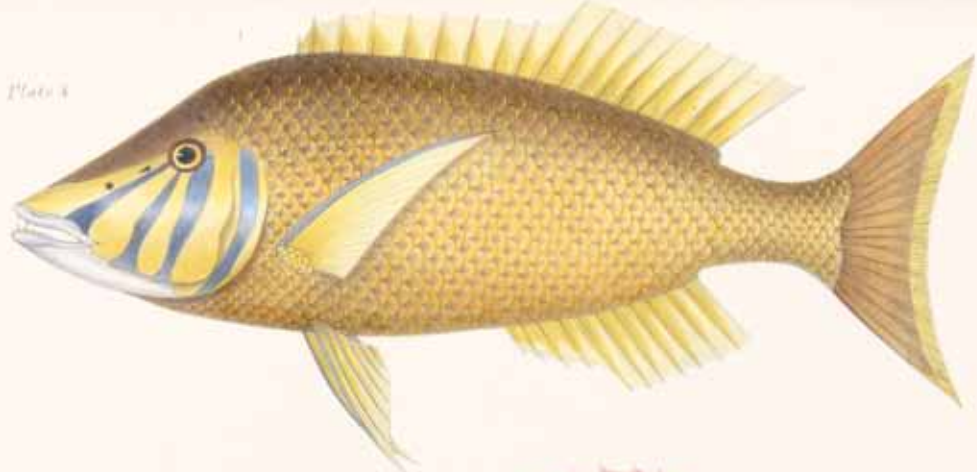
RARE BOOKS · MANUSCRIPTS · PAINTINGS

Plate 2



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RICHARDSON, John.

Icones Piscium, or Plates of Rare Fishes. Part I [all published]...

Folio, with five beautiful hand coloured plates; the text unopened; a handsome copy in the original printed paper wrappers, manuscript correction (as always) "five" to front wrapper, with the printed "four" struck through; housed in a cloth solander case. London, R. & J.E. Taylor, 1843.

FISH CAUGHT ON HMS *BEAGLE*

Very rare: the first separately published work on Australian fishes, in exemplary original condition. The particularly beautiful plates are after 'drawings from the portfolio of James B. Emery, Esq., late first lieutenant of the *Beagle* surveying vessel employed on the western coasts of Australia'. James Barker Emery (c.1794-1889) joined the Royal Navy in 1808 and was first lieutenant aboard the *Beagle* during her survey of the Australian coast from 1837 to 1841. Eleven of the species figured here were taken off the north-west coast, the other from Safety Bay in South Australia.

This work was produced by Sir John Richardson, who recognised the terrific amateur talent of Emery. Richardson achieved his fame as surgeon and naturalist on the two arctic land explorations led by John Franklin. He went on to a career as a great ichthyologist, editing many mid-nineteenth century natural history works. In his later career (Richardson was still helping the third Franklin expedition at 60 years of age) he became the Chief Medical Officer at Haslar Hospital.

\$18,500

Not in Ferguson.

back and on the forehead. The tips of the scales are brighter, approaching to king's yellow, with their bases darkening to a somewhat spotted appearance to the body. The iris is yellow, with a purplish-brown exterior circle. It is not advisable to enter deeply into the details of form of a species proposed from the figure only, but the points most worthy of remark are the undulations of the vertical edge of the preoperculum, and the comparative largeness of the spinous portion of the dorsal and anal.

LETHRINUS? CINNABARINUS (Nob.), Blue-lined, red Lethrinus.

No. 17. Linn. Esmer's drawings.

PLATE IV, Fig. 2.

This figure represents a fish twenty-five inches long which was taken at the same place with the preceding species, and nearly resembles it in general form. The profile of the forehead of this one is more convex, but there is little other difference. The fins have the same shape in both; the numbers of their rays are, D, 19; A, 12; C, 15 or 18; P, 16; V, 15. The head, body and fins are scarlet, the colour of the anal being less pure, and a darker bar terminating the caudal. There are five azure-blue lines, running parallel to the back, from the snout to the upper half of the caudal, evidently not descending below the usual course of the lateral line, though that is not indicated. The iris is gamboge-yellow, with some red bars on the outer circle. The *Lethrinus viaticus*, *L. cytharopterus*, *L. xanthopterus*, *L. erythrocaentus*, and several other species described in the *Histoire des Poissons*, are more or less extensively coloured red, but in none of them is that colour so generally diffused as in *cinnabarinus*, which is further characterized by its blue dorsal lines.

MENOIDES? CYANEO-TENIATUS, Blue-striped Menoid?

No. 18. Linn. Esmer's drawings.

PLATE V, Fig. 1.

This fish was taken at Depuch Island, off the north-west coast of Australia, in the twenty-first parallel of south latitude. The specimen that was figured, measured 77 inches in length. I am unable from the inspection of the figure alone to assign this fish to a genus with any degree of confidence, and have not therefore attempted it. It has the aspect of a Spanish Menoid fish, and the fusiform body of a *Caranx* in particular, but its dorsal fin is not higher anteriorly, nor are there any scales on the membrane as is usual in the species of that genus. Its proper generic name must remain for future determination; in the meantime the publication of the figure will direct the attention of voyagers to an interesting fish, of which a specimen is very desirable.

The body is fusiform, tapering most towards the tail. Its greatest height behind the ventrals falls a little short of a side of the length, caudal excluded. Preoperculum much rounded. Dorsal commencing over the base of the pectorals, and over, and containing sixteen rays (16/33). Anal opposite the soft part of the dorsal. Ventrals under the middle of its pectorals. Caudal lancet. Scales moderate-sized, extending over the whole head and the base of the caudal. Colour of the head and body yellowish-brown, gradually fading on the sides and cheeks to a dilute wood-brown approaching a white. A flax-flower-blue streak encircles the forehead, touching the upper edge of the orbit, and crossing the snout and eye. Three stripes of the same colour run from the snout to the upper part of the caudal fin, the uppermost of which encircle the base of the dorsal. A fourth blue stripe commences at the angle of the mouth, and running close beneath the orbital over the pectoral waters on the side, and again narrowing by degrees, ends at the base of the central caudal ray. The caudal fin is unspotted sulphur-yellow, the pectorals pale yellow, the ventrals flesh-coloured, and the anal and dorsal pinkish-white and diaphanous. The dorsal is tipped throughout by a buff-coloured stripe, and a blue longitudinal one crosses the middle of the soft part of the fin.

MENOIDES? AURO-FRENATUS, Gold-bridled Menoid?

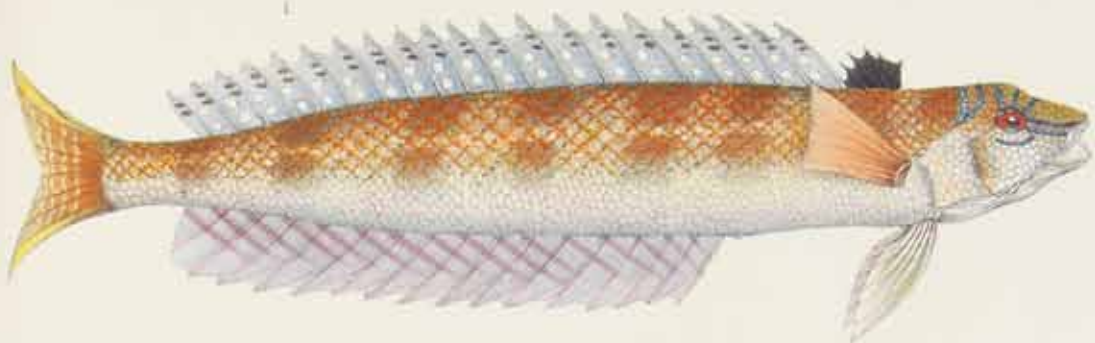
No. 19. Linn. Esmer's drawings.

PLATE V, Fig. 2.

This fish was taken in Taic Bay, Australia, and the example of which the drawing was made measured 84 inches. The same difficulty of assigning this species to its proper place in the system occurs which was felt in treating of the preceding one, and I have therefore abstained from naming its genus. The form of its body and its lateral golden stripe resemble with the Blue Cross-tail of Plate III, Fig. 2, and they are perhaps of the same genus, whatever that may be. The body is fusiform, tapering most towards the tail, the greatest height being equal to one-third of the length, not including the caudal fin. The fins are placed as in the preceding species, except that the ventrals are a little farther forward, and the anal is very small, and opposed to a smaller portion of the hind part of the dorsal. The dorsal itself is low throughout and nearly even, the decrease from the second ray, which is the highest, to the last being small. The caudal is lancet to the depth of half the length of its rays, but its tips are not acute. The scales of the body are much larger than those of the preceding species, and they even surpass those of the Blue-tail considerably in size. The snout and sides of the head are naked. The mouth is small. Colour of the top of the head and body wood-brown, gradually fading below the line of the pectorals to blue. A multi- or china-blue streak skirts the base of the dorsal, and runs forward to the snout. The same colour forms a semi-elliptically curved streak on each side of the tail. The sides are traversed from the eye to the upper third of the flat, the line of junction probably being coincident with the lateral line, which is not expressed by the artist. A gamboge-yellow streak crosses the forehead from eye to eye, and another crosses the snout and runs over the cheek to the edge of the gill-flap. The anterior half of this one is edged beneath with blue, and between it and the yellow frontal there is a blue streak which runs from the snout to the shoulder, being interrupted in the middle by the eye. The iris is yellow, with two blackish eccentric rings.

Plate 4

1



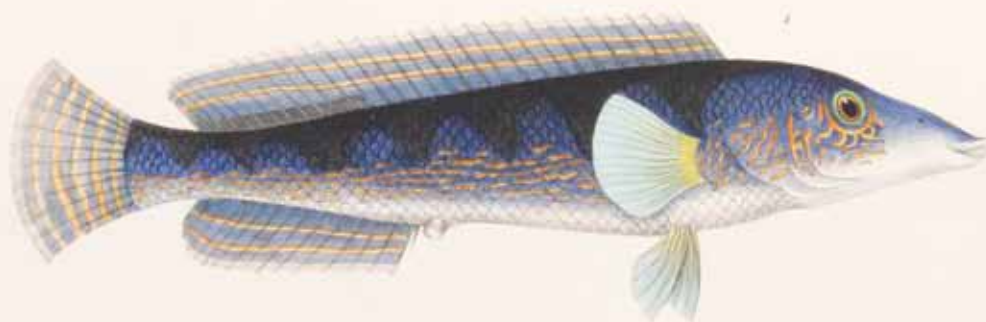
2



3



Plates



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